

Amendment to the claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A dry mixture for forming a fireproofing composition adapted to be spray applied to a steel substrate, said dry mixture comprising a hydraulic binder, a substrate adherence and coherence ~~enhancing~~ agent in an amount effective for enhancing adherence and coherence to said steel substrate, and a set retarder, said dry mixture providing, upon the addition of water, a pumpable slurry capable of spray application to a steel substrate and which, after spray application is adherent to said substrate.

2. (Currently amended) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said substrate adherence and coherence ~~enhancing~~ agent is polyvinyl alcohol.

3. (New) The dry mixture of claim 2, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol is in powdered form.

4. (New) The dry mixture of claim 3, wherein the average particle size of said powder range from 80 to 400 microns.

5. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 1% to 12% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

6. (New) The dry mixture of claim 2, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 1% to 12% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

7. (New) The dry mixture of claim 3, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 1% to 12% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

8. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 2% to 3% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

9. (New) The dry mixture of claim 2, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 2% to 3% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

10. (New) The dry mixture of claim 3, wherein said effective amount of said substrate adherence and coherence agent is from about 2% to 3% by mass of water added to said dry mixture to form said pumpable slurry.

11. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said hydraulic binder is stucco.

12. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises calcium carbonate.

13. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises alpha-olefin sulfate.

14. (New) The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said dry mixture further comprises glass fibers and cellulosic fibers.